

Meet Our November Presente

MP #3

Aquatic Invasive Species in Hawaii

Jules Kuo, *Hawaii Ballast Water & Hull Fouling Coordinator*, achieved her B.Sc. in Marine Biology at the University of California, Santa Cruz and her M.Sc. in Marine Science, with an emphasis in Biological



Oceanography, at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, through the San Jose State University. During her master's program, she tested ballast water treatment systems for Type Approval at the Golden Bear Facility—a collaboration between the California Maritime Academy and Moss Landing Marine Laboratories in central California, USA. At DLNR, she coordinates with intra- and international commercial and Government agency stakeholder groups to identify proactive solutions and regulatory standards for managing the top two vectors of aquatic alien species transfer into the State: ballast water and vessel biofouling.

Despite Hawaii's geographic isolation, aquatic invasive species threaten the integrity of our nearshore environments. Biofouling, the accumulation of animals and seaweeds on submerged portions of ship hulls, is the primary source of nonnative species introductions in Hawaii's waters. Ballast water, which is used to stabilize ships, is also a major pathway for species introductions.

Our November presenter will address the threats aquatic invasive species pose to our nearshore ecosystems and identify how partners can support ongoing initiatives to stop invaders.

MP #4, GOAL D

Goal D: Minimize the likelihood of aquatic invasive species introductions spread into and within Hawaii from sources associated with vessels

- Increase in number of ballast water reports processed
- Rules for managing biofouling on vessels are developed and adopted
- Ongoing funding is created for the Ballast Water and Hull Fouling Prevention Program

Questions?

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